

# MAINE FARMER, AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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## THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

### QUERIES RESPECTING MEADOW LANDS.

MR. HOLMES:—By answering the following enquiries in relation to the management and best method of reducing to profit meadow land, which has been subdued by being covered with water, you will confer a favor on a subscriber and friend to raising more hay at less expense.

And first, let me enquire what kinds of seed, and the quantity necessary to be sown? Second, when is it best to sow grass seed? Is it best to harrow in the seed? It has been said by some that foul meadow seed will not vegetate when harrowed in. I would like to know in relation to this. I would enquire whether it will be beneficial to flow such ground; if so, when should the water be put and when taken off?

3d. Is it best to have it covered during winter?

Some of these enquiries may have been made and answered through your useful paper, yet the importance of having the subject generally understood, I think a sufficient apology for its being again brought before the public.

This from your friend and very humble servant,  
J—

July 27, 1840.

The mode of managing such kinds of lands as our correspondent refers to, must depend very much upon the situation and variety. Where loam or soil or sand can be hauled on and spread without too much expense, it is desirable to do it. This may be spread over the surface and the grass seed sown upon it in the fall. Mr. Buckminster, Editor of the Boston Cultivator, gives the way and manner by which he reclaimed his bog in Framingham which we copy below.

If you have command of the water, and can lay it on or off at pleasure, a mixture of herds grass, red top and fowl meadow make an excellent crop. Our friend Major Wood, has very luxuriant crops of this kind growing in a meadow which he reclaimed some years ago.

If the water cannot be wholly controlled, perhaps the fowl meadow with red top would be best.

If you cannot cover the surface of the bog with loam or sand from the upland—and can burn the surface over and then put on the seed in the spring or fall it will generally catch well. We have never heard any complaint that fowl meadow grass would not vegetate if harrowed in. It is pretty certain that it should not be buried deep for it is a very light and small seed, and ought not to be put too far from the influence & the warmth of the sun. There is another fact in regard to it. It will not grow well where the soil falls heavy and becomes solid. It requires that the surface be kept light, and as long as this is so kept by little roots or leaves or the admixture of any material that will keep it up in a free and light condition it will flourish well. A peck of seed to the acre has been considered, in this region, sufficient.

It has been considered a great benefit in this section of the country to flow meadow lands in the winter. Put the water on in November and take it off by the tenth of May.

The principal trouble in regard to water is this; it is suffered to rest upon the land in the spring until the water becomes warm—the grass is stimulated and grows up fast. Then, by taking the water off sudden-

ly, the hot sun kills it, and thus, much injury is done.

The question of reclaiming bog meadows admits of as many answers as there are kinds and sorts of bog lands, and there are several.

There is the shaking bog—surcharged with water, and bearing only flat grass, rushes and gunbright;—then there is your peat bog, flowed a part of the year, made up of peat six or eight feet deep and a bed of clay beneath—this will bear a covering of dwarf bushes, called rhodoras, leather leaf hard-hack, &c. &c., and then there is another kind which approaches more to common soil, and bears alders and birches & maples & hackmatacks as thick as the hairs on your head. The position of these bogs or low lands must also vary the mode of management. If it be situated between two high hills, which ever and anon send a torrent of cold water upon it, or furnish lots of springs around the margin, it is evident that some measures must be taken to control the water from this source by cutting deep ditches on the margin, or conveying the water off in some other way.

As a general rule, you will find those bogs the deepest and best that are surrounded by moderate swells of land, and have a sluggish, lazy stream creeping through them.

There are also two systems of draining to be pursued. The one most generally pursued, is, to cut ditches or drains from the highest points to the lowest and let the water run off. But there are sometimes situations where this will not effectually drain the land in question. For instance, if there are bogs which are based upon clay, and below the clay is a body of water pressing upward. Now the clay is not very porous, as we all know, and water works through it with difficulty, and yet it will work through enough to keep it wet and soaked. The mode of draining in such cases is to dig ditches or channels, and to bore through the layer of clay and let the water up into the ditches and convey it away in them. This mode was first introduced in England by a Mr. Johnston. The water thus has a chance to vent itself, without soaking up through the substratum, and the bog is thus kept dry.

### ENGLISH HAY ON MEADOWS.

FRAMINGHAM, July 27, 1840.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CULTIVATOR:

Dear Sir,—I have been looking at the beautiful English grass on your meadow, now under the care of the tenant, Mr. Windsor Hemmenway. I have no doubt he cuts at the rate of two tons to the acre on it, and the grass is purely English, with as little intermixture as I ever noticed. I have known this meadow for many years and it has never before yielded any thing but coarse meadow grass—I have meadows of the same kind, and if I could convert them into as good English as yours produces without too much expense, I should like to try a piece. I shall not probably see you before it may be too late—will you be good enough to let me, as well as others, know your process and the whole expense of it. We are unused to converting meadows in this manner, and should like to have you quite particular, in regard to the cost.

Yours,

A TOWNSMAN.

The meadow of which our townsman speaks is part of a six acre lot over which the water from the mill pond often flowed when there was any to be spared. By turning all this water to one side of this meadow, and increasing the grass on that side,—and by digging a ditch through the part away from which this water was turned, it became so dry that we could go on it with a cart and oxen without difficulty.

In 1838 we suffered the crop of meadow grass

which grew on a part of this to stand until the fore part of September, with a view to bury the grass underneath the loam, and thus while we could more effectually kill the whole original growth we saved the labor of carting on a large quantity of loam to effect our object, and we converted all this standing coarse grass directly into manure.

Along side of the edge of this meadow is a high bank of sandy loam. We had calculated to carry our covering from this which was quite handy—but having enough already ploughed up by the road-side, though farther off, we took that first. It was no richer than loam that can be found in abundance any where by the wall side. Mr. A. Shaw was the only man we had at that time. With a yoke of oxen and a cart he undertook to cover a part of this meadow with the loam—he carried it from 20 to 30 rods, and such was his success in covering up completely the old meadow grass that he said he alone could cover up a fourth of an acre of it in a day.

We have not the least doubt of it, and are satisfied that any full grown laborer would easily cover one acre in a week, quite as deep as we could desire. Others can judge as well as we what a week's labor in September of man and oxen, or of man and horse, is worth. We count it two dollars per day, and we think we set it higher than the average rate. We must not count a day's labor of a horse or of oxen on a farm as we should on the road—labor on the farm is not half so wearing, and cattle will endure much longer.

Twelve dollars, then, will completely cover an acre of coarse meadow,—quite uneven at bottom by means of hassocks—and prepare it for the reception of such manures as are at command—provided we have a bank, within twenty rods, to cart from. Some farmers have carted on gravel and buried the natural soil five inches deep. There is no need of this; indeed we would not permit it on our own meadows, for we shall want, in time, to plough and bring up the muck of the meadow to the surface and mingle it with the loam or gravel, and with any new matter we may choose to carry on.

On to a half an acre of this land we carried, after the loam was levelled about six loads of compost manure—sowed half a peck of herdsgrass, and half a bushel of red top seed—then covered it with a brush harrow; for we feared an iron one might rake up the coarse grass which had been buried. A little clover seed was thrown on in the winter, and this served to keep out weeds, but was not tall enough to be cut with the herdsgrass, &c. the first season. Mr. E. Dearth mowed this piece of ground in 1839 and cut a good swarth, but not so large a one as was cut this season. Last summer and fall cattle and horses fed this lot very close—more so than any part of the farm.

We are inclined to think we saved one half the labor of covering this meadow by not cutting the coarse grass. We seem to have completely killed it, and this can not be so easily done after mowing it; as the stubs will peep through and grow rank among the new loam. We ought to make mention of the meadow mud which was thrown out of the ditch. This was mixed, as well as we conveniently could, with the loam, and helped to cover the old grass.

Now the standing grass on this half acre will bring enough to cover the whole expense, not only of carting on the loam, but of seeding and paying for the manure! And this does not arise from any extra price of hay, for if we go back 30 years we find that hay in Framingham has averaged, at some time in the year, fifteen dollars to the ton. And an acre of land that will annually produce one ton gives an income of fifteen dollars,—deduct three dollars for getting the hay, and twelve remain—and the fall feed is not counted.

We would remind our readers that lands thus prepared may at very small expense be made to produce from one to two tons to the acre, annually—for when the wild grass has crept in, as it is apt to do in time, we have only to



take a good plough and turn it underneath as a fresh supply of manure for a new crop—then a very small top dressing will keep such land in heart for a long time. And in dry seasons particularly, when hay always bears a high price, we are much more certain of a good harvest than we are from higher grounds.

#### DEATH OF DR. PERRINE.

The last news from Florida brings the unwelcome intelligence of the death of this indefatigable man in the cause of the culture of tropical plants in Florida. Some years ago he was appointed Consul of the United States, we believe to Campeachy. While there he spent much time in examining the productions, and conceived the plan of introducing most of their varieties into the United States, and particularly those from which cordage and fibres of different degrees of fineness are prepared, from that of the finest silk to that of hemp.

For many years he was petitioning Congress for aid in the enterprise, but that body generally slow to listen to what is really useful unless it also enlists advantages to one or the other party, "laid him over" from year to year, but at length granted a township of land in Southern Florida to aid the purpose.

The Indian war prevented his locating the township, and he accordingly began an experimental garden on a small island called Indian key not far from the main land, patiently waiting the time when the war should be closed, and he could go on with the enterprise so near to his heart.

The island was attacked in the night, and most of the inhabitants killed, and among them Dr. Perrine. Thus virtually sacrificing his life in the cause. We do not know the why or the wherefore but it really seems strange that a handful of Indians should thus keep the whole strength of the United State at bay. If they can't be conquered give them justice, or if they can be conquered give them justice. We have no doubt this would end the strife—a strife both disastrous and disgraceful to the whites.

#### Original.

SALATHIEL answereth "Kennebec" sarcastically—giveth an account of a "salt spring" and loss of seven KINE—discourseth further upon leached ashes and light crops, and hath a HACK at our Printer's Devil.

SACO RIVER, August, 1840.

DEAR DOCTOR:—In reply to "Kennebec," who charges me with quoting scripture "in connection with light and irreverent ideas," I need only say—

—"Those who in simple words Find evil meanings, make them!"

I disclaim all knowledge of that irreverence which your down east ascetic discovers in my letters. He may claim all such ideas as "his own original" by right of first discovery.

Advice costs nothing and its worth is generally on a par with its price. It is valuable for home consumption but, when it changes hands, changes to nothing. "Kennebec" must not lose his "good humor" should his good advice be returned unused. My letters are written to you, Doctor, and are to be amended, emended, cut short,—"dead cut," inserted under the fore-stick or in the Farmer, just as your Editorial will and pleasure may deem most fitting.

The question how I know that clouds are abundantly "manufactured" in the vicinity of the White Mountains, sticks like a burr in the throat of my logic. The hypercritical spirit, that, takes exception, to my free and careless expression, would deeply sympathize with the matter-of-fact Scotsman, who replied to the remark that Lord Wellington reaped his greenest laurels in India, by declaring it, "an altogether mistake, as the laurel did not grow in India." Or did "Kennebec" ever hear of the mathematical cook,

who, when directed by her master, who had a passion for soft-boiled-eggs, to take three and boil them just three minutes, boiled them nine minutes. The epicure on cutting, found them hard as Pharaoh's heart; but the cook, who construed every command literally, defended herself figuratively, from his rage and converted it into quiet good humor by appealing to her multiplication table. By this she made it appear plain as "Rule of Three," that, "if one egg should boil three minutes, three eggs should boil nine," whether the result was a hard boiled or a soft boiled egg—"For" she declared in simple phrase "three-times-three, is nine." From such logic there was no escape, and the epicure, though unable to relish a hard boiled egg, was haply possessed of a spirit, that could relish well, a hard-done-joke.

Now, Doctor, I wont say, on my Bible oath (no irreverence intended, unless taken) that, clouds are

"manufactured" up at the White Mountains. But I will "kiss the Book" and declare that, clouds "black as thunder" and livid with lightning, visit us from that quarter. We see 'em when they take their start and know their entire progress, till like the fabled Egyptian bird, they darken the very air over our heads. We even see them farther, and see them go out to sea. "Seeing is believing." Clouds doubtless "originate" a little west of those mountains, or even in other parts. Still that don't prevent our clouds from "originate"-ing in the mountains. I have never seen the apparatus by which they are "manufactured" but judge it of a piece with the down east Stump machine which the inventor declares will upset a cedar swamp "at one lift."

Your mineral water, Doctor, "a couple o' bottles," is already snug stowed in the darkest "corner lot" in our cellar. I hope it will keep till the time of its deliverance comes. It is of a pearly whiteness, and presents to the eye the hue of pure gin. I am happy, however, in informing your cold water-ship that there is no other resemblance. It smacks more of "villainous saltpetre," than of the grateful juniper—and is more strongly impregnated with iron than with the strong spirit of alcohol. I trust, it will not become "animalised" in its dark retreat, as you might in that case refuse to analyse it. Should "live critters" generate in it, it will commend itself, in addition to its other good qualities, as "a good breeder."

I have recently visited a saline spring in Buxton—which is worth a call from the curious or the valetudinarian. The water is strongly charged with salt and contains other medicinal properties, the nature of which, I am as yet, uninformed. A taste at this fountain will remind one, of Lot's wife, who, of woman kind, is the veritable salt of the earth. When the brimming cup first saluted my lips, I could almost imagine myself, treating her pickled ladyship to a hearty smack, it so gives and leaves on the tongue and palate the rough flavor of the Spanish Olive.

This spring is on the farm owned and occupied by William Adams, at about equal distance between Gorham and Buxton Corner, and is not more than twenty rods from the travelled roads. It is in the midst of a low, clay marsh, and the earth round the spring can be shaken by one standing upon it. A small earthquake can be easily got up void of all danger. The soft earth which incloses it, resembles and has the smell of marsh mud where it is flowed by the tides of the sea.

The neat stock, and horses and sheep, here pastured drink down this water lovingly, and as a proof of its quality eschew all salt as seasoning for their food. In early times, before the land in the immediate vicinity of the fountain was cleared of its growth, this was for a considerable space,—an acre or more,—a perfect muck hole. Mr. Adams informs me that some years since, in early spring time, seven cows, belonging to his father, got mired and perished in their attempt to get to the place where the water bursts up to the surface. It was afterwards enclosed by a stump fence to keep the cattle from it. Since the ground has been cleared it has dried up to a small space—the circumference of sixty feet—& may now be approached with comparative safety. But the cows in spring time, as if warned of danger by the shaking of the earth beneath them, will get down on their marrow-bones and literally crawl "on their hands and knees" to get at the water. Indeed the whole domesticated and tamed animal creation have a perfect passion, a mad thirst for imbibing at this fountain—and, in the spring, when the fences present only imperfect obstructions, they assemble from all quarters to get a taste of its quality.

But dumb beasts are not the only animals, which derive advantage from drinking at this spring. Those who live near, resort to it for healing, and find it "a savor of life." The mowers, when poisoned by mercury in the fields, give the affected part a coating from the moist blue clay, and it proves an effectual "healing plaster" in the short space of twenty four hours.

I shall bottle a quart "to your good health," Doctor and will present it at the same time with that taken from the mineral spring. I will cork it tight lest the salt should lose its savor—which would leave it, "poor pickle."

Is there any better mode of preserving these waters, than that I adopt, of corking them in glass bottles and placing them where they will keep dark and cool? If there is another and a better mode, please suggest it. I wish that in store, to preserve its peculiar flavor and keep its pristine purity till unstopped for use. I find that the water from the mineral spring, on exposure to the air and light, loses soon its peculiar flavor and odor and that from the salt spring, puts off its "fresh salt" perfume, in exchange for that which arises from decayed sea-weed. I shall "do my prettiest to keep what I have got" in its virgin freshness, free from taint and corruption. (To be concluded.)

Every gate post on the farm should have a hole bored in it, to be filled with grease and plugged up, to grease the latches and hinges. Want of grease is often observed, but from not having it at hand, it is generally never applied.

#### BREAKING A COLT BY KINDNESS.

Some good people who raise colts are not aware that they are thinking animals, and have feelings, passions, and affections very much like human beings. They cannot talk—that's all. People who do not appreciate the character of horses, are apt to treat them like brutes, without love or mercy, and without any appeal to their glorious intelligence. "The horse knoweth his owner;"—and he knows much more,—he knows when he is treated as a Christian's horse should be—and in respect of treatment the Turk and Arab have much the advantage of us in civilization.—Those pagans make friends of their horses—they love each other, and in the sandy desert or the wide plain, they lie down side, by side, and each is equally ready to resist the approach of an enemy.

It is not often so with us. The Colt is left to grow up to manhood wild in the pasture, with very little acquaintance or sociability with his master. As soon as he is thought strong enough to work, he has a saddle or harness slapped upon him, so hard as to make him tingle again. He is put into some strong cart or wagon without understanding what is wanted, and being bewildered in his ignorance, and exasperated at such rough handling, it is generally the case that he exerts his strength to get out of the scrape and avoid his enemies, by plunging, kicking, throwing himself down and sundry other such vile tricks, (as they are called,) as would naturally occur to a poor beast who thought himself villainously abused. While this is the operation in the mind of the unsophisticated colt, the horse, breaker is swearing at his vicious obstinacy, laying on the licks with the string or the butt of the whip handle, and doing his best to draw blood at every stroke. His intention is to subdue the beast to obedience. He may succeed, but it will only be by destroying his noble spirit, and rendering him a tame, passive beast of burthen, working only as he is forced, but without ambition or good will. The man is the most ignorant brute of the two. He is destitute of all proper knowledge of the animal "who knoweth his owner," and should be beaten with many stripes himself.

The fact is, the colt should be treated with unvarying kindness, except when he is manifestly vicious, contrary to his own knowledge, after having been fairly taught. When he is taken up for breaking, he should be kept hungry, and be fed from the hand of his master; while all the little tokens of praise, fondness and approbation, which are as gratifying to a horse as to a woman, should be liberally bestowed upon him. No act of rudeness or unkindness should inspire him with fear;—and in a short time he will come to his master as to his best friend. Let him feel that he is safe in the hands and care of man, and he will place confidence in that attention which is bestowed, and with a light heart will exert himself to please his rider. Bestow upon him the whip, and jerk him about with the halter and bridle, and his temper will rouse to resistance, or sink to stupidity.

A horse may be taught, like a child, by those who have won his affections; but the method of teaching is by showing distinctly what you want him to do, not by teasing him because he does not understand and perform at the outset. Judicious arrangement is required in the course of instruction, for these creatures, like men, have very different intellectual capacities and tempers; but all may be mastered by kindness, while the best, the most high-spirited, the most generous, will be ruined by beating.

To illustrate this, which we mean to enlarge upon hereafter, we will relate a little circumstance that occurred during a tour to the White Hills. Having a horse—a fine light grey saddle pony, we undertook, with a friend, to ride to the summit of one of the mountains. Federal—that was his name—and he belonged to Niles—would have done any thing for me, and he and I had become well acquainted, and he was a most noble hearted fellow. Federal chambered up according to my directions. I thought I could see the best way, and guided him accordingly. We got at last upon the peak, where was a level of some yards square, and Federal, who had never been up so high in the world before, as we slackened the rein, turned three times round to look at the prospect, and then set up a scream of delight. It was not a neigh nor a whinner, nor any common mode of talking for a horse, but it was a regular hurrah, as much as to say "O! thunder and lightning! Aint this glorius?"

After a while we turned to descend, and I gave Federal his own way. It seemed at times rather a ticklish job; but he managed it well. The little rascal stopped now and then and made a survey as carefully as could be done by a civil engineer. He turned and tacked, and worked ship, like an old sailor among the breakers; and being careful and surefooted, he came down safe as a tortoise. But we brought up at last against a fence—having taken a different direction from that by which we ascended. We rode at the

fence fairly said I, "I stopped a has never would have have broke had know him—con saw his her ears pricke side swell idea—that try it, and feet higher meant to m down, than sorted, as that?" and journey, Fe for leaping, even a stone at and leape nounce his

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#### AGREEMENT.

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fence fairly, but Federal stopped short. "You fool," said I, "can't you jump?" "Tried it again—no go I stopped a moment, and thinks I to myself this horse has never leaped a fence in his life. I felt sure he would have tried his best for me at any time, and would have broken his neck sooner than have refused—if he had known exactly what to do. I talked kindly to him—coaxed him—patted his neck—and as soon as I saw his head raised about two or three inches, and his ears pricked up brightly, and felt the muscles of his side swell under the saddle, I knew he had caught the idea—that was all he wanted—I gave him the hint to try it, and over he went, like a swallow, at least two feet higher than was necessary. The little scamp meant to make a sure job of it. He was no sooner down, than he wheeled about, looked at the fence and snorted, as much as to say, "what do you think of that?" and trotted off. Ever afterwards, during our journey, Federal was on the look out for some excuse for leaping. A log, run of water across the road, even a stone bridge, he uniformly pricked up his ears at and leaped across—giving a snort each time to announce his joy at having performed a new feat.

The moral of the matter has been stated at the outset. Federal only needed to understand what we wanted, to do all in his power for its accomplishment. He was only a hired horse, but we understood and loved each other. He was little, but high-spirited, noble, generous—no whipping on earth could have managed that horse so readily as kindness and encouragement. Pulling, jerking, whipping, spurring, might have been tried in vain to make him leap the fence—with a moment to think about it, and a nice dose of flattering applause, he flew over like an experienced hunter. More about this hereafter.—*Boston Times.*

#### AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.

When the first balloon in France was launched in the air by Pilatre de Rozier, a spectator was inveighing strongly against the utter uselessness of it—the folly of attempting to navigate the air. Dr Franklin, who was standing near, pointed to a very young infant in its mother's arms and told the speaker to look at it—it might become at a future day a great man—an useful and valuable citizen. This is a proper answer to all who object to communicate knowledge to agricultural papers, because book knowledge is so little to be depended on.

We ask all those who ridicule book planting, how knowledge in science and art and literature could be communicated but by books. We are accustomed to consider the discovery of printing as one of the greatest blessings to mankind, and to laud the improvements in the art—but agricultural knowledge must be handed down from father to son by tradition, and the practices of old farmers must not be recorded, because book knowledge is all folly, and will make a young planter soon plant himself out of seed.

We once had occasion to remonstrate with a young friend in college because he neglected his studies. He answered with perfect *sans froid*, that it was "considered more honorable to depend on talents than on study to carry a young man through college." Are not the objections to book knowledge about of equal value with this student's reply? We think them worth just as much.

It is surprising that intelligent gentlemen, men of education—who have the reputation of having more common sense than their neighbors, should indulge in the opposition to every thing written for an agricultural journal. It is but a few days since we heard a gentleman of character—who has travelled—who has had opportunities of studying the agriculture of other sections of country, say that it is folly to read any of their agricultural publications, because they don't suit us—we don't want book knowledge—an old negro on a plantation can teach how to plant and manage a crop, &c. It is time lost to talk with such men. This knowledge which he has learned from the old negro, and which he has applied to practice successfully, (and every young planter has not a learned old negro to instruct him,) is exactly what we desire to make book knowledge of. We desire to compare the results of the practices of these very opponents of book knowledge, to be able to correct and improve imperfect modes of management by their experience. And in the name of common sense, why should not this knowledge be put into a paper or book? Why should we not follow in the pursuit of agricultural knowledge the same course that is adopted in every other business? The answer is plain—prejudice like a mist exists against all innovations, and the want of energy and activity in the supporters of new practices causes serious difficulties. We are too much in the habit of moving in large bodies; as soon as a political principle is chiseled out, we pursue it in a pack—each supports the next man and the combined power of individuals studying and following out one idea, it is soon settled. In agriculture many principles are concerned—our people are scattered—each man is anxious to pursue a practice varying from the common course—no union is the consequence; and the adhesive power is not sufficient to induce a spirit

of attention to the same experiments—add to this a disinclination to do what others do not support you in, and we can understand the reason why agricultural knowledge is neglected.

Principles are hard to learn—a child has no pleasure in A, B, C: it must be impressed on him by repetition and example: Greek and Latin grammar have nothing agreeable in them to a young boy when he commences to study—the elements of foreign languages are hard to the comprehension, but we look to results for a stimulus to continue efforts to acquire them. Because Chemistry and Mineralogy and Geology ought to be studied to enable planters to understand the basis of agricultural principles, and planters think the study hard, and old practices easy, they are willing to plod on in the old way, and leave book knowledge to be sneered at by those whose interest it is to correct its errors, who are the only men who can properly establish sound practical principles.—*Southern Planter.*

#### CLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

From Ure's Dictionary.

#### LEATHER

Is the skin of animals, so modified by chemical means as to have become unalterable by the external agents which tend to decompose it in its natural state. The preparation in a rude manner of this valuable substance, has been known from the most ancient times, but it was not till the end of the last, and the beginning of the present century, that it began to be manufactured upon right principles, in consequence of the researches of Macbride, Deyeux, Seguin, and Davy. There are several varieties of leather; such as sole leather, boot or upper leather, shamoy leather, kid or glove leather, &c. Skins may be converted into leather either with or without their hairy coat.

We shall treat first of sole and upper leathers, being the most important, and most costly and difficult to prepare in a proper manner. These kinds consist of fibrous gelatine or skin, combined with the proximate vegetable principle, and probably also some vegetable extractive. Calf leather quickly tanned by an infusion of galls, consists of 61 parts of skin, and 39 of vegetable matter in 100 by weight; by solution of catechu, it consists of 80 of skin, and 20 of vegetable matter; by infusion of Leicester willow, of 74-5 skins, and 25-5 vegetable matter; and by infusion of oak bark, of 73-2 skin, and 26-8 vegetable matter. By the slow process of tanning, continued for three months, the increase of weight upon the skin in its conversion into leather, is greatly less; the vegetable constituents being from Leicester willow only 13 per cent. of the leather, and from oak bark 15 per cent. Sole leather, however, generally contains no less than 40 per cent. of vegetable matter. In every astringent bark, the inner white part next to the *albumen*, contains the largest quantity of tannin, and the middle coloured part contains most extractive matter. The outer surface or epidermis seldom furnishes either tannin or extractive matter. Young trees abound most in the white cortical layers, and are hence more productive of tannin under equal weights, than the barks of old trees. In no case is there any reason to believe that the gallic acid of astringent vegetables is absorbed in the process of making leather; hence Seguin's theory of the agency of that substance in disoxygenating skin, falls to the ground. The different qualities of leather made with the same kind of skin, seem to depend very much upon the different quantities of extractive matter it may have absorbed. The leather made with infusion of galls, is generally harder and more liable to crack than the leather obtained from infusions of barks, and it always contains a much larger proportion of tannin, and a smaller proportion of extractive matter.

When calf skin is slowly tanned in weak solutions of the bark, or of catechu, it combines with a good deal of extractive matter, and though the increase of the weight of the skin be comparatively small, yet it has become perfectly insoluble in water, forming a soft, but at the same time a strong leather. The saturated infusion of astringent barks contain much less extractive matter in proportion to their tannin, than the weak infusions; and when skin is quickly tanned in the former, it produces a worse and less durable leather than when slowly tanned in the latter. In quick tanning, a considerable quantity of vegetable extractive matter is thus lost to the manufacturer, which might have been made to enter as a useful constituent into the leather. These observations show that there is a sufficient foundation for the opinion of the common workmen, concerning what is technically called *feeding* of leather, in the slow method of tanning; and though the process of this art have been unnecessarily protracted by defective methods of steeping, and want of progressive infiltration of the astringent liquor

through the skins, yet in general they appear to have arrived, in consequence of old experience, at a degree of perfection in the quality of the leather, which cannot be far exceeded by means of any theoretical suggestions which have been advanced.

On the first view it may appear surprising, that in those cases of quick tanning, where extractive matter forms a certain portion of the leather, the increase of weight is less than when the skin is combined with the pure tannin; but the fact is easily accounted for, when we consider that the attraction of skin for tannin must be probably weakened by its union with extractive matter; and whether we suppose that the tannin and extractive matter enter together into combination with the matter of skin, or unite with separate portions of it, still, in either case, the primary attraction of skin for tannin must be to a certain extent diminished.

In examining astringent vegetables in relation to their power of making leather, it is necessary to take into account not only the quantity they may contain of the substance precipitable by gelatine, but likewise the quantity and the nature of the extractive matter; and in cases of comparison, it is essential to employ infusions of the same degree of concentration.

Of all astringent substances hitherto examined, catechu is that which contains the largest proportion of tannin; and in supposing, according to the usual estimation, that from four to five pounds of common oak bark are required to produce one pound of leather, it appears, from the synthetical experiments, that about half a pound of catechu would answer the same purpose. Mr. Purkis found, by the results of different accurate experiments, that 1 pound of catechu was equivalent to 7 or 8 of oak bark. For the common purposes of the tanner, 1 pound of it would be equivalent also to 21-4 pounds of galls, to 71-2 of the Leicester willow, to 11 of the bark of the Spanish chesnut, to 18 of the common elm, to 51 of the bark of the common willow, and to 3 pounds of sumach.

Various menstrua have been proposed for the purpose of expediting and improving the process of tanning, among others, lime water, and solution of pearl-ash; but as these two substances form compounds with tannin which are not decomposable by gelatine, it follows that their effects must be prejudicial. There is very little reason to suppose that any bodies will be found which, at the same time that they increase the solubility of tannin in water, not likewise diminish its attraction for skin.

In this country all tanned leather is distinguished into two kinds, called *hides* and *skins*; the former term being appropriated to that made from the larger animals, as bulls, buffaloes, oxen, and cows, into thick strong sole leather; and the latter to that made from calves, seals, &c., into thinner and more flexible upper leather. Sometimes the hides are brought into the market merely dried, as from Buenos-Ayres; or dried and salted, as from Bahia and Pernambuco; but the greater part are fresh from recently slaughtered animals. The heaviest ox hides are preferred for forming *butts* or *backs*, which are manufactured as follows:—

The washing process must be more or less elaborate, according to the state of the skins. Those that are salted and dry require to be steeped, beaten, and rubbed several times alternately, to bring them to the fresh condition.

After removing the horns, the softened or recent hides are laid in a heap for two or three days, after which they are suspended on poles in a close room called a smoke-house, heated somewhat above the common temperature by a smouldering fire. In these circumstances, a slight putrefaction supervenes, which loosens the epidermis, and renders the hair easily detachable by the *fleshing* knife; a large two-handled implement, with a blunt edge, and bent to suit the curvature of the rounded beam of the wooden horse upon which the hide is scraped.

The next step is immersion in a pit containing water impregnated with about a 1000th part of sulphuric acid. This process is called *raising*, because it distends the pores, and makes the fibres swell, so as to render the skins more susceptible of the action of the tanning infusions. Forty-eight hours in general suffice for this operation, but more time may be safely taken.

When the hides are found to be sufficiently raised, they are transferred to a pit, in which they are stratified with oak bark, ground by a proper mill into a coarse powder. The pit is then filled up with an infusion of oak bark called *ooze*, and the hides are allowed to remain in it for about a month or six weeks. By this time the tanning & extractive matter of the bark having combined intimately with the animal fibre, the pit is exhausted of its virtue, and must be renewed, by taking out the spent bark, and subjecting the skins to a fresh dose of oak bark and *ooze*. The hides which were placed near the top of the first pit, must be placed near the bottom of the next. In this mixture they remain, upon the old practice, about three months. The last process being repeated twice or thrice, perfectly tanned leather is the result. The hides are now removed from the pit, and hung up in a shed. In the progress of drying, which should be slow, they are compressed with a steel tool, and beaten smooth, to render them more firm and dense.

(To be Continued.)





## AGRICULTURAL.

The Editor of the Farmers' Register often gives us some interesting sketches of Agricultural excursions made in the "Scenery South" by which we can see with the mind's eye the state and condition of the Agricultural community in that section of the union.

The following extracts from notes of his recent Journey in North Carolina will show our readers what extent of Rail Road they now have in North Carolina and also how they collect the turpentine of which so much use is made in ship building &c.

### WILMINGTON AND ITS RAILWAY.

At 1 o'clock, A. M. April 14th, I left Petersburg Va., in the southern steam carriage, and at 7 P. M. reached Wilmington, N. C., which was later than usual, owing to several causes of delay. Distance, 181 miles.

The newly finished Wilmington railway (of 163 miles) is the most level and straight route, of any of considerable length, in the world; and being well planned and constructed, as well as on so remarkable and admirable a location, it necessarily is an excellent road. It seems also to be well managed—a matter which is as important to success as all the other requisites put together.

The construction of a railway of such great length, is a rare instance of bold enterprise on the part of a community so small, and necessarily so deficient in wealth, as the people of the little town of Wilmington; for to them is entirely due the credit of the enterprise, and principally the successful consummation of the work. This road makes, together with the Raleigh and Gaston, and parts of the Petersburg and Roanoke, Portsmouth and Roanoke, and Greenville and Roanoke rail-roads, more than 300 miles of railway, finished and in regular use, within the State of North Carolina. Making every allowance for the aid of investments made by the citizens of Virginia in these great works, the results, brought about too in the last few years, speak loudly in favor of the enterprise of the "old north State," which has been jeered as being the Rip Van Winkle of the American confederacy, or as asleep in regard to public improvements. Perhaps Rip was aroused from his long sleep rather too early, after all. At any rate, it would have been far better for his immediate neighbors, both north and south, if they had remained asleep fully as long.

There being not sufficient accommodation at the public houses for the entertainment of so many visitors, we were met, upon our arrival at the depot, and divided among the principal inhabitants, like so many captives, except for the intention not being hostile, but hospitable, and entertained in the kindest manner during our stay.

The next day was the festival, to celebrate the recent completion of the rail-road, to attend which, as an invited guest, I had so far diverged from the point to which my previous engagements called me. An enormous length of tables was filled by upwards of 600 guests, and the dinner passed in the usual manner of all such entertainments.

Of Wilmington it may be said, almost literally, that it stands on a mere sand bank. This I had heard before of its site, but did not realize the truth of the description. The ground is not level, as I had supposed from the very level surface of the country in general. On the contrary it is quite hilly. The elevations are hills of almost pure sand; and have very much the appearance of their having been formed by the wind on the ancient shore of the ocean. Judging from the absence of all vegetation in the open parts of the town, I at first thought that I had, for the first time, seen land either too poor or too sandy to produce (naturally) a blade of grass. Such, however, was not exactly the state of the case, as I found afterwards by walking out in the adjacent country.

The enterprise of Wilmington is conspicuous in other things besides its great rail-road. The thickest settled and business part of the town was all burnt but a few months ago; but there are already indications that the ruins will soon be replaced by new and good buildings. A new church, of the Gothic order

of architecture, is, to my eye, the most beautiful structure, and the most appropriate in design to its purpose, of any modern building known.

### PINE FORESTS.

From the few fine specimens I had seen of the long leaf pine, on the southern border of lower Virginia, I had expected to see magnificent trees forming the greater part of the vast pine forests of North Carolina. But such is far from the fact. Some few indeed present the noble elevation of straight trunk, and great size, which I had looked for; but most generally, the trees are much smaller, and far from being pleasing to the eye. The long leaf pine is the original and almost sole growth of the drier lands of New Hanover, and even much farther north, as seen along the railway. The short leaf pine, as called here, and which is the "old-field" pine of Virginia, is here, as with us, the universal second growth of the drier lands wherever the first growth has been cleared off. As to the short leaf or common "woods-pine" of Virginia, I have seen none, though I hear that some few may be found.

It is a curious fact, and one much to be lamented, that there is scarcely any reproduction of the long leaf pine throughout the vast region of which it now forms the almost exclusive cover; and that when the trees now living shall have died, there will be almost a total extinction of this beautiful and valuable tree. It is a tree of very slow growth; and probably most of those now living are older than the general settlement of the region, or the existence of the circumstances which now oppose reproduction. The large cones or "burs" of this tree contain numerous seeds, which drop out as the cone opens, and which are eagerly sought and eaten by hogs. This "pine mast" forms the great resource for feeding the hogs while ranging at large, as is the usage. In this way, very few seeds escape to sprout. And of the few that do sprout, scarcely any of the young trees survive the after attacks of the hogs, which root up the young trees, to eat the roots, even when the trees are several years old. Hogs ranging in the woods are quite fond of the tender roots, and the bark of the roots of older trees, and live on this food principally in the winter and spring, after the pine seeds are consumed.

From these causes I presume it is that very few young long leaf pines are to be seen. I noticed them no where except a few in the neighborhood of Wilmington, in riding from that place to Rocky Point. And the appearance of the young long leaf pine is too remarkable not to have been observed if seen. It is indeed as remarkable for its singular and beautiful form when very young as for its noble size and form when old. One of three seasons' growth (for example) was only a little more than two feet high, and retained at once all the leaves of the three seasons, though in very distinct states. The leaves of the first year, dead and dry, but still firmly set and strong, covered the plant thickly for about a foot above the ground; then the green and vigorous leaves of the last year's growth, for about the same extent; and lastly, the new upright and compact shoots of this spring, one or two and sometimes three, from which the leaves, though formed, had not yet unfolded, and which shoots are each about the size of, and not very unlike in general appearance, a large shoot of asparagus, as it first rises out of the ground. The older leaves are about a foot long, and as thickly set on the single and upright trunk as can be imagined; and the whole plant, of this or of less size, is much like an artificial military plume of enormous dimensions.

### THE TURPENTINE AND TAR BUSINESS.

The making of turpentine and tar is the almost sole business of the thinly settled population of the pine lands. They are generally poor and indolent; yet this business affords good profits even at the present low prices, and enormous profits were made when naval stores were more than double their present prices. Turpentine now sells at \$1.80 the barrel at Wilmington, and it has sold for upwards of \$4. Mr. Lazarus told me that he had paid to a poor white man, who worked singly and unassisted in making turpentine, \$1000 for the fruits of his labor of one year. It is understood that a good hand can attend to 9000 trees, and can secure 200 barrels of turpentine in a year.

In commencing the operation on trees before untouched, a receptacle (or "box" is cut by the axe on one side of the tree, and about six inches above the ground, which is large enough to hold a quart of the fluid turpentine which exudes from the cut sap-wood and which flows into this hollow from the upper part and sides. The flowing of the sap begins of course in the spring. At the end of a few days, (according to the time and state of the season,) the laborer visits all his trees, dips out the collected turpentine and

puts it in barrels. He then cuts from each side of the tree a shallow groove, inclining downward to the box, through the bark and a little into the wood. Into these new cuts the turpentine exudes, and flows down them into the box. The tool by which this operation is performed is called a "shave." It is a circular piece of iron like the eye of a weeding hoe, with the lower edge sharp, and which is attached to a shaft or handle, so as to cut its groove like a gouge, but by being pulled to, instead of being pushed from the operator. Every time the box is emptied of its turpentine, the "shaving" is extended upward, and thus gradually making the tree bare of bark and of the outer surface of the sap-wood as high as can be conveniently reached, or 15 feet and upwards. This shaving rises about two feet in a year, and thus it takes about seven years to finish one side of a tree. The side edges of the bared surface are carefully kept perpendicular and straight, and not quite to embrace the half of the trunk of the tree. Next, the opposite side is "boxed," and treated in the same way, taking care to leave a strip of an inch or two of bark on each side between the old and the newer work. Without other cause of decay or destruction, the trees will live and yield well until the sides can be shaved no higher. But the spreading of accidental fires seldom fails to kill the tree earlier. For the entire face of the cutting being encrusted with turpentine, and the wood below being converted to solid lightwood, no trees can be more inflammable; and the fire burns so deeply in, as to kill the strips of living bark by heat, or to weaken the trunk so much that it yields to, and is prostrated by, the next storm. The trees, or parts that escape being burnt, are finally cut up into billets, and the tar extracted from them, by burning them slowly in a close kiln, made by covering the lightwood with earth in the mode well known in every pine country.

It is only the turpentine that has fluidity, and is collected in the box, that is considered first rate. The part that sticks to and hardens above has lost its most valuable part, (the oil or spirits of turpentine,) by evaporation, and when scraped off, which is the last part of the process, is sold at half the price of the fluid turpentine. Of course the expense of land carriage is a sufficient bar to the production of so heavy and low-priced products, where the distance is considerable.

The turpentine getters are careful every spring to rake away the leaves from the foot of every tree, and to burn the collected trash when it can be done slowly and safely. But they cannot always command the progress of the fires; and from that, or other less carefully made fires, great havoc is often made among the boxed trees.

Where vicinity to market, of cheapness of carriage, permits this business to be in full operation, it cannot last long, as the long leaf pines will be destroyed and will not be renewed. The other kinds of pines are not worth working for this purpose.

**NEW MODE OF DESTROYING THE BLACK GRUB, OR CUT WORM.**—The destruction of crops by the cut worm is incalculable in most parts of the United States and countless remedies have been offered, but not one that strikes us more forcibly than the following, taken from a No. of the Genesee Farmer. The whole secret consists in turning up the ground with the plough during winter, so as to freeze the eggs. A correspondent of Judge Tucker says, "one of my neighbors wishing to try the experiment, broke up one of his fields, adjoining the field of another neighbor—the two fields being separated only by a worm fence—during warm spells in winter, when the ground ploughed during the day would freeze at night. The spring following he again broke up the ground and planted it in corn, but not a cut worm was to be seen the whole season; while his neighbor, who ridiculed the idea of breaking up ground in winter to prevent the cut worm from destroying the corn, broke up his in the spring and planted it also in corn; but what was his surprise when he saw his field filled with cut worms and his corn almost destroyed, while the adjoining field of his neighbor remained unmolested." The writer says, many experiments have been made and with universal good success.—*The Agriculturist.*

**QUALITY OF THE MILK DURING THE PROCESS OF MILKING.** Several large coffee cups having been successfully filled while milking from one cow produced the following results: In every case the quantity of cream was found to increase in proportion as the process of milking advanced. In different cows the proportion varied, but in the greater number the excess of cream in the last cup, as compared with the first, was 16 to one; but in some cases it was not so much; therefore, as an average, it may be considered as ten or twelve to one. The difference in the quality of the



two sorts of cream given by the first drawn milk was thin, white, and without consistence, while that furnished by the last was thick, buttery, and of a rich color. The milk remaining in the different cups presented similar differences, that which was drawn first was very poor, blue and had the appearance of milk and water; that in the last cup was of a yellowish hue, rich and to the eye and taste resembled cream rather than milk. It appears, therefore, from those experiments, that if, after drawing seven or eight pints from a cow, half a pint remains in the teats, not only almost as much cream will be lost as the seven or eight pints will furnish, but of the best quality, and which give the richest taste and color to the butter. This fact has been corroborated by chemical experiments, and holds good with respect to goats and other animals.—*Blacher's Essay on the Improvement of Farms.*

## THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

We are favored by a worthy friend with the following article which will doubtless be read with deep interest. The writer is a man of untiring industry and patient critical research, and has devoted much of his time to subjects of public utility which has made him a useful contributor to the Periodical Press. May not the readers of the Farmer hope to hear from him frequently?

### POST OFFICE IN PORTLAND.

MR. EDITOR:—To some who are acquainted with the early history of Portland, the following facts may be interesting.

The Post Office at Falmouth, Me., now Portland began by appointment of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts Bay about the third of June 1775. In October of the same year the caption of the records of the Post Office is as follows: "Letters received into the Post Office at Falmouth, begun from the instructions sent me by Benj. Franklin, Esq. of Philadelphia." The business of the Post Office at first was very small. There were sent from the Office to all places in 1775, in June 10 letters; in July 30; in Aug. 15. In June 1776 but three letters were sent; in July, but three; in Nov. but two; and in Dec. but two. In 1777, '78, and '79, the business was rather greater. But in 1780, '81, '82, and '83 it declined again, for a considerable part of the business of the office appeared to have grown out of the war. This appears from the fact that from June 3d 1775 to Oct. 4 1775, the letters received in the office were as follows: from New York 4, from Cambridge 15, from Salem 8, from Philadelphia 1. From Boston none were received, the place being then in possession of the British, while Cambridge was the head quarters of the American Army. I will give the number of letters received in the months of January and February for several years from the several towns. This will show the growth of the business of Portland and the places with which that business was transacted.

	1776	'77	'78	'79	'80	'81	'82
Boston	0	1	6	8	2	6	1
Salem	4	2	1	2	3		2
Newburyport	3				1	2	
Portsmouth	2	1		3			1
New York	4						
Philadelphia	1			2			1
Cambridge	7						
	1783	'84	'85	'86	'87	'88	'90
Boston	7	11	12	13	15	17	17
Salem	3	7	8	4	5	6	6
Newburyport	1	3	1	4	2		4
Portsmouth N. H.	1	5	2	4	4	4	7
New York		2	3	3	2	9	
Philadelphia	5		3	3	1	1	

The business of the office with towns in Maine was for a while very small. The first letter to any of the towns in Maine, from the Office was June 14, 1775 to Kennebunk. The next letter sent was in the same year, Aug. 26 to Georgetown. Then several more to Georgetown. In January 1788 the first letter to Wiscasset was sent, followed by numbers of others. The first letter to Bath was sent January 1791. The first to Biddeford was sent March the same year. The first letters from the several places mentioned, were sent.

From June 1775 the mail came to Portland from the westward but once a week. From Jan. 1789 it came twice a week. In May 1789 it began to arrive three times a week, and thus it continued to arrive until at least March 1792.

In 1783 from Jan. 5, to Jan. 26, no mail reached Portland from Boston. The Boston letter bills, Jan. 9th, 16th and 23d, reached Portland Jan. 26th. In 1776 the Philadelphia post bill of Oct. 11th was not received until Nov. 11th; and the post bill of Oct. 31st was not received until Nov. 25th. As late as 1790 a letter was sixteen days coming from Philadelphia.—From New York a letter then came in thirteen days. From Boston a letter was three days coming. Indeed

up to 1791 the general rate of the progress of letters in the best travelling was 40 miles a day; and the towns were then farther apart because the roads were more circuitous. Up to 1792 at least, the postage was charged by penny weights and grains. Thus the postage to Portsmouth, N. H. was two penny weights, this is, I suppose, twelve and a half cents. The postage to Boston in 1786 was two pennyweights, sixteen grains, that is 162-3 cents. The postage to Baltimore was then six pennyweights or 37½ cents.

The increase of the business of the Post Office attended and promoted the increase of the commercial business of the town. In 1782 the unpaid letters received in the office amounted to \$35.87. In 1790 they amounted to \$170.18. And in 1803 they amounted to \$2,301 17, and the same year the postage collected on Newspapers amounted to \$121 11.

The Post Office establishment I consider one of the richest blessings of a Christian civilization. Rome, in the thousand years of her existence as a state, devised no such means of accommodating the public. Indeed in any country, where the people are not essentially free, such an establishment is not thought necessary. "I am the state" said the haughty Louis Fourteenth, and all the posts that such a state wants is a courier to carry despatches for the grand monarch, and his servants. The United States, however, with the first breath they drew as a nation established a system of mails for the people because the people ruled; and the nation and the mail establishment have flourished together.

## GEOLOGY.

Geography and Geology are sister sciences, as both describe the earth. The one tells where mountains and other portions of the earth are; the other tells what they are. The one describes the situations and the other ingredients or materials, with the order of their arrangement. The one cannot be fully understood without assistance from the other.

Among all the sciences, no one is more simple or easily understood, or better calculated to employ, entertain, and instruct children; and few, if any, more useful to farmers, mechanics and others, than some of the first elements of "PRACTICAL GEOLOGY." No science probably displays in a more striking and wonderful manner, the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Creator of the Universe.

A large portion of the twenty-five specimens here described, can be found in every part of the world; all, and many more, may be obtained with a trifling expense and trouble, as a part of a "FAMILY CABINET" for each of the two millions of families in the American Republic. They are particularly convenient and useful for the country or world, to send to those of other countries or continents, as an aid from those who know, to those who do not know the elements which compose our globe.

Quartz is the most common and abundant ingredient in mountains, rocks and soils; is the natural deposit of gold and other metals; the necessary and principal ingredient in the manufactory of glass; and under different forms and colors, is known by the names of jasper, carnelian, calcedony, agate, amethyst, topaz, opal, and other gems. The different kinds of quartz, found in abundance, are called milk quartz, smoky quartz blue, red and yellow quartz, according to their various colors. Quartz, in all its varieties, is hard, and scratches most other minerals, and of course, cannot be scratched by them. Gun-flint, and the common smooth, hard pebbles found in nearly every part of the globe, are varieties of this common, abundant and useful mineral. It is the only mineral which is found every where.

No. 1. Milk quartz is nearly pure, or free from iron and other substance, which give color to mineral, also to animal and vegetable substances.

No. 2. Smoky quartz which is colored by iron, is of various shades, and sometimes transparent.

No. 3. Red or jaspery quartz has a large portion of iron than any other variety. Jasper is a gem, and is beautifully polished.

No. 4. Felspar is intimately and extensively combined with quartz in the formation of mountains, soils, &c., and is essential in the manufactory of porcelain or china ware. It is scratched by quartz, and breaks more in the form of plates or small tables. It is commonly reddish, and sometimes flesh colored; also nearly white. When reduced to powder, it is more like clay, and less like sand than quartz when pulverized.

No. 5. Mica, frequently called isinglass, is combined with quartz and felspar in the formation of nearly all the high mountains upon our globe. In some parts of Russia and other countries, it is used for windows, in place of glass.

No. 6. Hornblend is less hard, but more tough and difficult to break, than quartz or felspar. It contains a large portion of iron, is of a dark green or black color, and enters largely into rocks, ledges and mountains in various parts of the globe.

No. 7. Graular lime is much used for marble, and is abundant in many parts of the world.

No. 8. Compact lime is of a finer texture, and more recent formation, than granular, and does not receive as fine a polish. One variety, found in Germany, is used for lithographic printing.

No. 9. Green serpentine is an abundant rock, and sometimes a good material for the walls of houses.

No. 10. Yellow serpentine is interspersed with the green, but not as common, nor as good for buildings. Precious serpentine, which is frequently yellowish red, receives a beautiful polish, and is hence used for ornaments of various kinds. Serpentine can be cut with a knife.

Serpentine is the common rock at Hoboken, and is found in long ranges in Pennsylvania, Maryland Virginia, &c. Serpentine ridges are the deposits of chrome ore.

No. 11. Compact gypsum is a common variety of this rock which is ground and used by farmers for manure. When very compact, fine and translucent, it is called alabaster, which is much wrought for ornaments.

No. 12. Selenite, or crystallized gypsum, breaks in thin plates or leaves, and is frequently as transparent as glass. Gypsum can be scratched by the finger nail.

No. 13. Talc is sometimes called French chalk. It has a greasy or soapy feel, and commonly a light color, and is softer than gypsum.

No. 14. Coarse granite is supposed to be the substance formed when God said, "Let dry land appear." It is composed of quartz, felspar and mica, the last frequently in plates sufficiently large for windows.

No. 15. Fine granite is a common, valuable material for the walls of houses. The ingredients are like those in the coarse, except finer.

No. 16. Gneiss is slaty granite. from the position of the mica in gneiss, it is split with ease into large slabs fit for floors, side-walks, bridges, &c.

Nos. 17 and 18. Mica slate resembles gneiss, but contains no felspar, being composed of quartz and mica. The surface being frequently undulating, as in No. 23. Beautiful crystals of garnet and staurolite are sometimes deposited in mica slate in great numbers.

Nos. 19 and 20. Sienite has the same ingredients as granite, except that hornblend takes the place of mica. The most noted quarries of this rock are in Quincy, Mass. which furnished the material for the Bunker Hill Monument, and for houses in great numbers and value in nearly every sea-port in the country.

No. 21. Greenstone is composed of hornblend and felspar intimately combined, and constitutes rocks ledges and mountains in various parts of the world. It is green or black, not easily broken, but much used for buildings.

Nos. 22 and 23. Sandstone, composed of cemented grains of sand, is much used for buildings, and is the only material fitted for grindstones. No. 22 is from quarries in the Lyceum Village, Ohio, which furnish the best grit for grindstones known in America, and a valuable article for whetstones, buildings, tombstones, and various other uses.

No. 24. Puddingstone, or conglomerate, is composed of cemented pebbles of various sizes and qualities, and is frequently found with sandstone. In many places it is a common and abundant, if not the only rock. When the pebbles are not rounded, having sharp corners, it is called breccia, like the pillars in the capitol at Washington, D. C.

No. 25. Soapstone is composed of talc and quartz and is extensively used. It can be readily cut into slabs with a common saw, hewed with an axe, turned in a lathe, smoothed with a plane, and thus wrought into almost any form which its uses may require.

From small beginning, like the few specimens here described, thousands and tens of thousands, of large and valuable cabinets have grown, and numerous thorough mineralogists and accomplished naturalists have arisen; while those who commence with large and expensive collections, seldom acquire any considerable knowledge of the subjects to which they relate. And among the many thousands who have attended full and able courses of lectures on Geology and Mineralogy, few, if any can distinguish one mineral from another, except those who have formed cabinets for themselves; while children, in great numbers in all parts of the country, by the aid of a few specimens, and two or three excursions to collect them, are as familiar with all the common rocks and most of the useful minerals, as with the articles of table furniture. A teacher once said to his boys, that all who had their lessons at a time mentioned, might go with him on a geological excursion. He afterwards remarked, that several of his boys, for the first time in their lives, got their lessons, and at the time specified. Many thousand similar cases might be named.



These facts, and thousands of others of a similar character, afford sufficient proof, that—whether the practical sciences, the “*useful branches*,” as some are disposed to call them, such as reading, writing and arithmetic, or the preservation of morals, are concerned—collecting, arranging studying and describing specimens of geology, and other departments of natural history, are among the most useful exercises which teachers and parents can provide for their children.

No. 1.	2.	3.	4.
Quartz.	Quartz.	Quartz.	Felspar.
5.	6.	7.	8.
Mica.	Hornblend.	Lime.	Lime
9.	10.	11.	12.
Serpentine.	Serpentine.	Gypsum.	Gypsum.
13.	14.	15.	16.
Talc.	Granite.	Granite.	Gneiss.
17.	18.	19.	20.
Mica. Slate.	Mica Slate	Sienite.	Sienite.
21.	22.	23.	24.
Greenstone.	Sand-stone.	Sandstone.	Puddingstone.
	25.		
	Soapstone.		

The above list is one prepared by Mr Holbrook, and published extensively in the papers in New York and other parts of the country. They will afford aid to our young friends in commencing collections of minerals. We shall be glad to hear from any young friends who are engaged in making collections or in exchanges.

In a future number, we will give a list of Chemical Salts which are nearly related to some of these minerals.

### SUMMARY.

**Afflicting Calamity.**—The New York papers contain accounts of a most distressing and calamitous dispensation, by the fall of the draw of the State street Canal Basin Bridge in Albany, at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon, just as the steamboats were departing for New York, and when hundreds of people were crossing the bridge over the Canal Basin, the draw broke and precipitated from seventy to eighty persons and three or four horses and carts into the basin! They fell about twenty feet into twelve feet water. The struggle for life, among the sufferers, was brief but awful. We shudder, says the Evening Journal at the horrid recollection of it. Hundreds of citizens, with a dozen boats, sprang to the relief of their drowning fellow citizens. At 7 o'clock 18 dead bodies had been recovered. This dreadful loss of life was occasioned by the refractory conduct of the insane man, who was refusing to go with his keeper. His resistance drew a crowd which blocked up the passage, until the mass of people and carts became too heavy for the draw.

The Albany Argus says:—At sundown, 19 bodies had been recovered, which with one recovered to-day, make an aggregate of twenty persons ascertained to have been drowned. The probability is that all have been found; although there are rumors of one or two missing boys from families in the city.

Among the names of those who lost their lives is that of W. L. Morey, of Vt. With the exception of Mr. M. and two or three others, the sufferers all belonged to Albany. We are unable to give names and further particulars for want of room.

**Despatch.**—An order for merchandize was sent from here to England on the 1st day of July. The goods were bought in London, sent to Bristol by land, reached here, were sold, and the proceeds remitted back by the Great Western, and will probably be in London about Sept. 1st. So these three crossings of the Atlantic, with the transaction of the business, and eleven days lost by delays in waiting for the steamers to start, will all consume but two months. It is probable that letters sent from Liverpool by the Acadia will receive answers by the Great Western in just about twenty-five days. Money employed in the traffic between Europe and America can now perform about four times as many operations as it could two years ago. Of course the profits on each operation will be proportionately reduced. This rapidity of intercourse will have a powerful tendency to preserve steadiness in the markets. On the other hand, it will deprive our manufactures of a considerable part of protection they enjoyed from the great distance of their competitors.—*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

**A long Thread.**—At the Polytechnic Institution, Regent street, London, there is exhibited one pound of glass, spun by steam into a thread four thousand miles long, and woven with silk into beautiful dresses and tapestry!

During the violent thunder shower on Sunday afternoon last, the lightning struck the barn of Mr Waterman Elwell, about a mile from this town which was entirely consumed, together with 12 tons of hay, a quantity of grain, and all his farming articles—Loss about \$500. We learn that the lightning done damage in other places. A large barn belonging to Mr Libby of Warren was burnt, also, one in Liberty.—*Waldoboro' Patriot.*

About 900 persons die every week in the city of London.

A distillery was burnt in Boston on the night of Sunday the 23d ult. Loss \$10,000, mostly insured.

The Bangor Whig states that Col. Parks, the Marshal, has returned from the Madawaska Territory, and that the population of the settlement, according to the census which has been taken, is 3500.

The late census of New Orleans gives a population 100. This shows how rapidly that city is growing. A census taken in the winter would undoubtedly show a much larger population.

“I have a great aversion to Auburn locks,” as the criminal said when he took a cell in the Auburn prison.

**The way to win a simple woman's heart.**—Let your hair hang in superfluous ringlets over your neck and shoulders; never suffer a razor to touch your face; squeeze yourself into a coat of mulberry cloth; put on a vest striped with green, yellow and red; pants checked with blue, crimson and purple; shove your feet into a pair of boots with the heels at least three inches high; dangle a little black cane tipped with brass; a huge brass ring on your little finger; and you will be the lion of the day, and win the heart of any simple flirt you meet with.—*New World.*

**Cloth made without Spinning or Weaving.**—An American has procured a patent in England and several other countries of Europe, for an invention for making broad or narrow woollen cloths, without spinning or weaving. The Leeds Mercury says:—After an inspection of patterns of the cloth, we should say there is every probability of this fabric superceding the usual mode of making cloth by spinning and weaving.—The abridgement of labor will be very great. One set of machinery, it is said, not costing more than £600, will be capable of producing 600 yards of woollen cloth, 30 inches in width, per day of 12 hours.—The machinery would be in a week or two ready for making a trial at Leeds, under the superintendence of the inventor, by a cloth merchant who has an exclusive license. A conditional sale has also been made for the patent right for the kingdom of Belgium, for the sum of £20,000.

**Powder mills blown up.**—The powder mills at Exeter, N. H., were blown up on Wednesday morning.—Two buildings were destroyed. The explosion is represented to have been tremendous, and to have caused great consternation throughout the town. The shock was sensibly felt in all the neighboring towns. No lives lost.

**Boundary Survey.**—We learn from the Globe that Maj. James D. Graham, with Lieuts. Lee and Town, of the Topographical Engineers, are ordered on the survey of the due north line of the North East Boundary.

A negro man in Somerset county, Md., was shot last week, in attempt to rob a grain house. The owner of the grain was apprehensive of a design to rob him, and he placed a gun in the house so that the opening of the window would discharge it. The negro came, opened the window, and received the whole charge in his breast, killing him instantly.

There is no mistake now, that the potato crop in this vicinity will be quite small. We have noticed some fields where the vines look as though they had been injured by a heavy frost, occasioned by the rust.—*Bangor Courier.*

During a thunder shower in Northampton, Mass., on Sunday last, the house of Mr Samuel Willard was struck, and his son, ten years of age, was killed.

**Trial of Strength.**—Not far from this I saw a novel and to me, interesting trial of strength. The traces of a stout well-conditioned cart-horse were attached to a splinter bar, which two men took hold of in their hands. They then placed themselves, so that their feet were against the side of a small grip in the road, and, in that position, tried their strength against that of the horse. He was, by word and whip, excited to put forth his utmost strength, but totally without effect. The two men held him back, without being moved from their position, so that he could not advance an inch. One of the men alone then tried the experiment, but this time the horse was easily victorious.—*Trollope's Summer in Brittany.*

Paul, being a Roman citizen, was beheaded just outside the walls of the eternal city; and Peter, who was a plebeian, and could not claim the distinction of the axe and the block, was executed on the cross, with his head downwards, to increase the pain and the indignity.

Mr. Marsh, a chemist, connected with the Royal Arsenal, Eng. has discovered that iron which has remained a considerable time under water, when reduced to small grains, or an impalpable powder, will become red hot, and ignite any object with which it may be brought in contact.

**Kennebec Dam.**—Operations have commenced in earnest, and the fullest confidence is entertained that the breach will soon be repaired, and the dam be rendered permanent.—*Temperance Gaz.*

It is calculated that there are eight hundred millions of yards of cotton goods manufactured annually in Great Britain—being nearly one yard for every supposed human being on the globe.

Birds of a rare and beautiful species have recently made their appearance on the coast of S. Carolina. They come from the tropics, and are known as the *troupiall* of Buffon.

**Mysterious.**—A case is now being investigated in Boston of a very important and serious character, and involving the reputation of parties in tolerable high life. A Mr. Kenney lately died under rather suspicious circumstances, so much so that it was thought advisable to make a post mortem examination, in the course of which it was discovered that arsenic was contained in his stomach, and therefore must be the cause of his death. The wife of the deceased was the widow of the Rev. Mr. Freeman, pastor of the First Baptist Church in this city, who died a few years since under like mysterious circumstances. Under all these circumstances, it was thought best to disinter the body of Mr. Freeman, as, if his death came by taking arsenic, his body would be in a good state of preservation. The body has been disinterred and found undecayed. These are the particulars as related to us. There will doubtless be some very important disclosures.—*Lowell News.*

It is said that Mrs. Kenney has absconded. She is represented as possessing great personal attractions, and intelligence, but has never been remarkable for cultivating the moral sentiments. The whole affair, which has caused no little excitement in this city, will doubtless be strictly investigated.

A Coroner's inquest has been held, for the last few days by order of Mr. Parker, District Attorney, upon the body of Mr. Kinney, which, on Tuesday evening, brought in a verdict, that his death was occasioned by poison, administered by his wife.

Arsenic, in some form, was found in his stomach, which was separated and reduced to its metallic state. A letter was received from an apothecary, by Mr. Parker, which induced him to have the body examined. The heart and a portion of the entrails of the late Rev. Mr. Freeman, of Lowell, the second husband of Mrs. Kinney, who, it will be recollected, died very suddenly, are also undergoing medical analysis, by a skillful physician of this city. “It is rumored,” says the Times, “that a cake was made by Mrs. Kenney, on the day of her husband's death, which caused several members of the family to vomit, and led to the belief that they had been attacked by the cholera; and that a quantity of arsenic has since been found in the house.” There are numerous other rumors abroad, but we suppose a judicial investigation will place the matter where it belongs—on the guilty. Mrs. K. is now absent from the city and a warrant has been issued for her arrest.

**From Quebec.**—The steamship Unicorn arrived at Quebec, at 2 o'clock P. M. on the 19th inst. with the news from England by the Acadia, making 15 days from Liverpool. There was an *on dit* that the Governor General of the Canadas was to be raised to the peerage, under the title of Baron Waverly and Toronto.

**Another Fisherman Seized.**—A letter from Sydney, C. B. of the 11th inst. says: “Fishing schr. Pallas, Haskell, of Gloucester, was captured and brought into this port on the 6th inst. by the cutter John Louisa Wallace, Forester, commander, for an alleged violation of treaty. The vessel had been stripped and the officers and crew sent on shore. The validity of the seizure is doubted and will be contested.”

**Writings of Napoleon.**—The Paris correspondent of the National Intelligencer says that a new edition in three splendid royal octavos, of the Emperor's effusions, at St. Helena, now first collected into one body, is about to appear. Each chapter of the work will be enriched with a fac simile of the manuscript, bearing the corrections made by his own hand.

**Steam Fire Engine.**—They are about building a fire engine in New York to go by steam. It is to have power to throw water to the top of the highest buildings, in such quantities as immediately to quench a fire.

Fourteen thousand German emigrants have arrived at N. York since the 2d of March. Nearly all of them have proceeded to the West, to settle on lands purchased by them.

During the month of July not a single death occurred at Bangor, with a population of about 8,000.

The English papers contain a report of a trial for a breach of marriage promise at Dublin, in which the Judge in the course of his charge to the Jury, remarked that he never knew a long courtship to turn out well, and whatever the lady might do to remain constant, the gentleman seldom did.

### Married,

In Hallowell, Mr John H. Titcomb of Boston, to Miss Nancy G. Dole.

In Waldoboro', Hiram Teague to Miss Mary A. Shuman.

In Northport, William Patterson of Belfast, to Miss Clarissa Mudgett.

In Boston, 25th inst. Henry Bigelow, M. D. of Buxton, Me., to Miss Matilda Ann, daughter of Loui Pool, Esq.



## DEED,

In this town on the 20th ult., Mrs. Esty, wife of Mr. Aaron Esty.

In Monmouth, on Thursday the 20th ult., Mrs. Pamela, wife of Mr. Jason King, aged about 45.

In Whitefield, Mr. Barnabas P. Tobey, aged about 40. Mrs. Lewis, wife of Mr. Alden Lewis.

In Clinton, Mr. Mordecai Moore, aged 103. He was one of the first settlers, and a soldier of the old French war. He was among the early settlers when they fled to Great Island in the Kennebec River, on an alarm of Indians. He first came to Bloomfield in 1773 or '74, where he first settled.

In Hallowell, on Tuesday of last week, Mrs. Sarah P. wife of Col. Andrew Masters, aged 42.

In Waldoboro', Dea. Payn Elwell, aged 73.

In Hallowell, Charles Edward, son of Mr. S. R. Webber, 3 years and 4 months. Child of Mr. Daniel Hodges, 4 months. Edwin, son of John Parker, 16 months. Edward Owen, 11 months. Child of Mr. Daniel Lakeman, 6 weeks. Alonzo, son of John Parker, 6 years. Child of Mr. Church, 15 months. Child of Mr. John Palmer, 3 years. James, son of Dr. Nicholas Smith, 6 years. Edward K., son of Daniel Wadsworth, 2 years.

## BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Aug. 24, 1840.

(From the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.)

At market 490 Beef Cattle, 440 Stores, 4800 Sheep and 920 Swine.

Prices—Beef Cattle—First quality 5 75 a \$6; second quality 5 a 5 25; third quality 3 75 a 4 75.

Stores—Sales were not brisk; purchasers are hardly willing to pay the cost of the cattle in the country. We noticed sales of two year old at \$14, 15 and 18; and three year old at \$24, 25, 27 and 29.

Sheep—Dull. Lots sold for 1 25, 1 33, 1 42, 1 50, 1 67, 1 88, \$2, and 2 25.

Swine—Dull. Lots to peddle at 3 1/2 a 3 3/4c for Sows, and 4 1/2 a 4 3/4 for Barrows. At retail from 4 1/2 to 6.

## THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

Aug. 11	Thermom.	Barometer.	Weather.	Wind.
28.	64 69 68	29.80 29.80 29.80	F. F. F.	ssw.
29.	65 68 70	29.80 29.85 29.85	F. F. F.	sse.
30.	70	29.80 29.75 29.70	F. F. C.	sse.
31.	70 76 75	29.60 29.50 29.50	C. s F. s F.	sse.
S1.	62 67 65	29.50 29.55 29.50	F. F. F.	w.
2.	60 65 67	29.50 29.45 29.40	C. C. C.	w.
3.	60 65 64	29.45 29.45 29.50	F. F. F.	sw.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset.

a. Shower between observations. The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

## Stock for Sale.

THE subscriber offers for sale Stock of the following kinds, viz:

1 Bull (called Bolivar) 2 years old. He is 3-4 Durham Short Horn, 1-8 Bakewell and 1-8 Hereford. He measures 6 feet 10 inches, and is estimated to weigh 1700 lbs. He took the first premium at the Kennebec Co. Ag. Society's Show and Fair in 1838 on the best calf, and in 1839 as the best one year old Bull. His calves are good, and he is considered by good judges to be the best bull of his age in the State.

1 Cow 7 years old; 1-2 Durham Short Horn, 1-4 Bakewell, and 1-4 Hereford. The stock from this cow is first rate. She is with calf by Bolivar.

1 Bull Calf from the above cow sired by Bolivar. 1 two year old Steer that is very large of his age, or I would purchase one that would mate him.

3 Breeding Sows, two are pure Bedford, and the other Bedford and Mackay. These sows would be kept if desired and put to my Berkshire boar.

3 litters of pigs, one litter is seven weeks old, the others three days old. They are from the above sows, sired by my full blooded Berkshire boar. From what I have seen of pigs from this cross, I believe they are superior to any I have had. They seem to possess the quiet disposition so necessary for a good hog; they will attain a larger size in the same time on common keep. My price for them is \$4 a pair at one month old, and 25 cents per week for keeping after that time. Any person who buys a pig of me, and it does not answer my recommendation or his expectation, the money shall be returned.

Also 2 Bucks, 5-8 South Down 3-8 Dishlev and Merino. Also 3 full blood Dishleys, also a few Ewes of the same cross. Persons wishing to purchase any of the above stock, will find it to their advantage to call and see before purchasing elsewhere.

Hallowell, 9th mo. 4th, 1840. 3 weeks.

J. W. HAINS.

## Strayed or Stolen,

FROM the pasture of Lora B. Stevens in Greene, on or near the 30th day of August last, two horses; one of a light red color, natural trotter, with a long tail and mane; about seven years of age; the other is a white horse, short thick and well proportioned, with a small bunch near his sheath caused by unskillfulness in castrating, as is supposed, which would not be detected without close inspection; with one of his knees swollen; some where from 12 to 15 years of age. Whoever will give information where said horses or either of them may be found or return them to the subscriber, or detect or give any information of the thief whom it is feared has stolen them, shall be suitably rewarded by me. LORA B. STEVENS.

Greene, Sept 2d, 1840.

3w\*35

## Superior Ploughs for Sale.

A NEW and extensive assortment of the celebrated Ploughs, manufactured by Ruggles, Nourse & Mason, has been received. They are offered for sale at low prices and on accommodating terms.

Persons desirous of purchasing GOOD PLOUGHS are requested to call and examine for themselves.

NOYES & ROBBINS.

Winthrop, Sept., 1840.

N. B. The "Side Hill Plough" is kept constantly on hand, as above.

## Vegetable Syrup.

FOR FEMALES, en enciente.

THE most safe and effectual remedy for lessening the pains and sufferings attendant on parturient WOMEN, that has ever been discovered.

Directions for using it, &c., are briefly stated in a small pamphlet that accompanies each bottle; in which are certificates from Physicians, who have prescribed it, and other Gentlemen whose Wives have used it.

Prepared by S. PAGE, Druggist, Hallowell, Me. to whom orders may be directed.

It is also for sale by the dozen or single bottle by W. C. Stimson & Reed, No. 114 State street, Boston; Noyes & Robbins, Winthrop; J. E. Ladd, Augusta; Charles Tarbell, Gardiner; I. Alden, Waterville; Nath'l Weld, Bath; G. Williston, Brunswick; A. Carter & Chs. E. Beckett, Portland; Geo. W. Holden, Bangor; W. O. Poor, Belfast; Doct. J. A. Berry, Saco; T. Fogg & Co. Thomaston; R. S. Bladell, East Thomaston; Edmund Dana, Wiscasset; C. Church, Jr. Phillips; H. B. Lovejoy, Fayette; John Sides, Waldoboro'; S. W. Bates, Norridgewock.

March 7, 1840.

coptf.9

## SEARS GENUINE VEGETABLE PULMONARY BALSAMIC SYRUP OF LIVERWORT.

For cure of Consumptions, Coughs and Colds.

More than 75,000 bottles of this very valuable medicine has been sold, (principally in the State of Maine,) since it was first offered to the public by the original inventor and proprietor, J. B. Sears, a few years since.

It is undoubtedly superior to any other article offered to the public, as it seldom fails of giving relief where it is taken in due season.

Although the superior virtues of this medicine are well known, and its qualities highly approved by many of the most respectable of the Medical Faculty, the following certificates are added for the satisfaction of those who may be afflicted with these diseases for which it is designed, several others may be seen on the bill of directions accompanying each bottle.

The undersigned takes pleasure in mentioning the prompt and essential relief which he experienced in a severe attack on the lungs in January last, from the use of the Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort; and cheerfully testifies that in his opinion, it is a most beneficial medicine in consumptive complaints, violent colds, or settled cough, and earnestly recommends this Medicine to all who are suffering under afflictions of this kind.

Thomaston, Feb. 16, 1831. PHILIP ULMER. Certificate of Dr. Goodwin, an experienced Physician of Thomaston.

I do hereby certify, that I have this day examined the composition of a Medicine prepared by John B. Sears of this town, which he calls Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort, for the cure of Consumptions, Coughs, Colds, &c., and in my opinion it is superior to any Cough Drops that has come within my knowledge.

Thomaston, April 2, 1831. JACOB GOODWIN.

The undersigned having purchased the original recipe for this syrup, has made arrangements to have Agents in the principal towns in New England supplied with it. Purchasers will be careful that the bill of directions are signed by H. Fuller or S. Page, and the name of the former stamped in the seal, and my own name written on the outside label.

T. B. MERRICK.

The following are among the Agents for selling the above Syrup; Wm C Stimson & Co., Pratt & King, and Maynard and Noyes, Boston; J. S. Harrison, Salem; A. Carter, Portland; Geo W Holden, Bangor; R. S. Bladell, Thomaston; J. E. Ladd, Eben Fuller and A Hatch, Augusta; A T Perkins, Gardiner; Geo Williston, Brunswick; Dr J A Berry, Saco—& for sale by most of the stores in the county.

KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the first Monday of August, A. D. 1840,

LYDIA WING, Widow of Isaac D. Wing, late of Winthrop, in said county, deceased, having applied for an allowance out of the personal Estate of said deceased,

Ordered, That the said Widow give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the last Monday of September next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 34

## Notice

IS hereby given that my minor sons, HIRAM and WILLIAM HENRY THURSTON, have left home for the purpose of working out. All persons therefore are forbid harboring or trusting them on my account, as I shall pay no debts of their contracting after this date. Any person or persons employing either of the said minors are forbid paying them more than one half of their wages without my consent.

THOMAS THURSTON.

Winthrop, Aug. 25, 1840.

3w34

## Notice.

INQUIRY having been frequently made, whether MR. BAILEY intends to commence his school according to previous notice, this is to inform all concerned, that he will commence said school in Union Hall, on Monday the 7th of Sept. next, unless public notice to the contrary be given.

August 18, 1840.

## Monmouth Academy.

THE Fall Term will commence on Monday the 31st of August, under the care of Mr. N. T. TRUE. The mathematical department will be under the care of Mr. Benj. H. Kimball who has proved a successful teacher in his division of labor. Young Ladies and Gentlemen who wish to attend a systematic and thorough course of instruction, will find this a profitable place of resort. It is, however, absolutely necessary that students be present, at, or very near the opening of the school, as the loss of one day will often seriously retard their progress during the whole term.

The course of Lectures on Chemistry will commence with the term and continue during the Fall and Spring terms. Lectures will also be delivered before a select class of such as contemplate teaching the ensuing winter. Books and Stationery can be purchased at the Academy. Good Board may be obtained on the most reasonable terms.

A Public Address will be delivered on the first evening of the term by Rev. Wm. V. JORDAN, of Dixfield.

Tuition—In the General English Department, \$3.00.

High do and Classical do. \$3.75, for 12 weeks.

NEH. PIERCE, Sec'y.

Monmouth, July 30, 1840.

6w30

## Machine Shop and Iron Foundry.

HOLMES & ROBBINS would inform the public that they continue to carry on the MACHINE MAKING BUSINESS as usual, at the Village in GARDINER, where they will be in readiness at all times to accommodate those who may favor them with their custom. They have an IRON FOUNDRY connected with the Machine Shop, where persons can have almost every kind of Casting made at short notice. Persons wishing for Mill work or Castings for Mills, will find it particularly to their advantage to call, as the assortment of Patterns for that kind of work is very extensive and as good as can be found in any place whatever.

Castings of various kinds kept constantly on hand—such as Cart and Wagon Hubs of all sizes, Fire-Frames, Oven, Ash and Boiler Mouths, Cart and Wagon Boxes, Gears of different kinds and sizes, &c. &c.

All orders for Machinery or Castings executed on the most reasonable terms, without delay.

Repairing done as usual.

Gardiner, March 21, 1840.

1y12

## Stray Horse.

Strayed or stolen from the pasture of Samuel Tarbox of Danville, (Me.) on the night of the 6th instant, a dark Bay Horse, about ten years old, one or both hind feet white, a white stripe in his face, scars on the back part of his thigh, white spots on the back, and on the back part of his forelegs near the belly. Whoever will give information to the subscriber in Hartland through the Maine Farmer or otherwise, where said Horse may be found, shall be suitably rewarded and all necessary charges paid.

JOHN STINCHFIELD.

Hartland, July 11, 1840.

t/28

LETTER & WRITING PAPER of different sizes and qualities, for sale at this office.

## Garden Implements,

A good assortment for sale at this office.



## POETRY.

Original.  
TO DEITY.

Being of beings! Uncreated Source—  
Great Keeper—and Generalissimo  
Of all beings in world of worlds! Permit  
An untutored tongue to lisp thy hallowed Name,  
And pay it holy adoration due.  
O Thou, before whose throne supernal,  
Hosts of angels and seraphic spirits bow  
And, silently, expressive, utter thy  
Majestic and Omnific Greatness! Help  
Indulgent Heaven, help a feeble tenant  
Of this world below, by sin defiled, to 'proach  
Thy holy habitation, and, in humble  
Imitation of the blest hosts above  
Do Thee acceptable homage.

Great God!  
Giver of all gifts; happiness of all  
Creatures—"Thyself" completely so"—alone,  
Worthy of eternal praise and worship!

Nature, in various voice, in thy worship  
Instructs. The bright orb of day, in annual  
Circuit, speaks thy unchangeableness.  
And Cynthia, in nightly course, tells thy love  
To man in the dark of sin. And earth too,  
In all her variegated garment,  
Teaches in each section of thy Providence.  
Talk, then my soul, not with lips alone,  
But in thy heart, thy pilgrimage below;—  
Join all thy powers in theme so heavenly;  
Accept it Father, though needless to thyself  
In glory; yet to thy praise and glory  
Add, as one small sand adds to Ocean's  
Vastly shore, and makes, perchance, in th' blest  
Song of praise an unintelligible  
Syllable of sound! Praise, praise him all  
Below!

July, 1840.

ALLAN.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## CONDITIONS OF THE POOR IN IRELAND.

To see happy Ireland, we must choose a point of view which takes in a narrow and isolated field, confining the eyes to neighboring objects; but wretched Ireland, on the contrary, is open to the sight everywhere.

"Naked, famished misery, a vagabond and worthless misery, a mendicant misery, covers the whole country; it shows itself everywhere, under all forms, at all times; you perceive it first in landing on the shores of Ireland; and, from that moment it appears before you, sometimes under the appearance of the sick man who displays his wounds, sometimes under that of the pauper dressed in rags; it follows you everywhere; it surrounds you without ceasing; you perceive its groans and tears from far; and, if its voice does not move you with profound pity, it importunes and alarms you. This misery appears natural to the soil, and like one of its products; like those endemic plagues which pollute the atmosphere, it pollutes every thing which approaches it, and touches the rich himself from the miseries of the poor, and makes vain efforts to shake off the vermin which he has created, and which attaches itself to him."

Represent to yourself four walls of dry mud, which the rain, in falling, easily reduces to its original condition; a little stubble for roof, or some squares of turf; a hole rudely broken in the roof for a chimney, and, more frequently, the very door of the house, by which alone can the smoke escape; one apartment, containing father, mother, grandfather and children; no furniture in this poor hovel; one bed, made usually of grass and straw, serving for the whole family. You see, crowded in the fireplace, five or six half-naked children, before a scanty fire, the ashes of which cover some potatoes, the only nourishment of the whole family; in the midst of the whole lies a dirty pig, the only inhabitant of the place who fares well, because he lives in filth. The presence of the pig, in the Irish houses, seems, elsewhere, a sign of misery; it is, however, a token of some comfort, and there is specially extreme poverty in the cabin where none dwells.

Not far from the cottage is a little field of an acre, or a half, in size; it is sowed with potatoes; rows of stones, heaped on each other, and bushes, crossing among these, form the inclosure.

This dwelling is very miserable; nevertheless, it is not that of the poor man, properly so called. This is the description of the Irish farmer and of the agricultural laborer.

I have said, that there are no small proprietors below the great ones, and none but poor below the wealthy; but these are miserable in different degrees, and with gradations which I could wish to show.

All, being poor, use only the cheapest nourishment in the country, potatoes; but all do not consume the same quantity; some, and these are the privileged class, eat three times a day; others, less fortunate,

twice; some, in a state of indigence, only once; and there are those, who, more destitute still, pass one whole day, sometimes two, without taking any food.

This life of fasting is cruel; and yet it must be submitted to, under fear of greater evil. He who eats more than he can afford, and fasts once less than he ought, is sure to have nothing with which to clothe himself; and yet this prudence, this resignation to suffering, are often unproductive.

Whatever may be the determination of the poor cultivator in bearing hunger, that he may face his other wants, he is in general naked, or covered with rags, transmitted in the family from generation to generation.

In many of the poor houses there is only a complete suit for every two persons; this obliges the priest of the parish always to say mass on Sunday several times. When one has heard the first mass, he returns to the house, takes off his clothes and gives them to the other, who goes at once to attend the second mass.

I have seen the Indian amidst his forests, and the negro in chains, and have thought, while beholding their pitiable condition, that it was the limit of human misery; I knew not then the fate of the Irish. Like the Indian, the Irishman is poor and naked, but he lives in the midst of a people who seek for luxury, and honor riches. Like the Indian, he is deprived of the good which human industry and the commerce of nations provide; but he sees some of his equals enjoy this good to which he cannot aspire. In the midst of his greatest distress, the Indian preserves a certain dignified independence. However poor and hungry, he is still free in the desert, and the feeling which he has of this liberty alleviates his sufferings. The Irishman feels the same deprivation, without having the same freedom; he is subjected to rules and shackles of all kinds; though governed by laws, he dies of hunger, a sad condition, uniting the vices of the civilized with those of the savage state. Undoubtedly an Irishman who has shaken off his chains, and who has faith in the future, is indeed less to be pitied than the Indian or black slave; but now he has neither the freedom of the savage, nor the bread of slavery.

I shall not undertake to describe all the circumstances, all the shades, of Irish misery, from the condition of the poor farmer, who fasts that his children may live, to that of the cultivator, who, less miserable, though more degraded, resolves to beg; from resigned poverty, which is silent in the midst of suffering, to that which rebels, and, from violence, goes on to crime.

Irish poverty has an entirely distinct character, which renders it difficult of description, because it can be compared to no other poverty. Irish misery has a distinct form, of which there is no model or imitation. We feel, in beholding it, that we cannot theoretically assign any limit to the wretchedness of a people.

In all nations there are more or less poor; but a whole people poor is what we never saw, till Ireland showed it to us.

To know the social condition of such a country, it is only necessary to relate its miseries and sufferings; the history of Ireland is that of the poor.

Misery descends, in Ireland, to depths elsewhere unknown. The condition, which in Ireland is above poverty, would be elsewhere accounted a state of frightful distress; and the wretched classes among us, whose fate we justly deplore, would form in Ireland a privileged class. These miseries of the Irish population are not singular accidents; almost all are permanent; those which do not exist always are periodical.

Every year, at nearly the same point of time, there is announced in Ireland, the beginning of the famine, its progress, its ravages, its decline.

In February last (1833), the French press registered the annual cry of Irish misery, and gave the number of those who, in one month, died of hunger. Either through selfishness or humanity, many choose to think that the accounts given of Irish poverty are exaggerated; and for them the word *famine*, which is made use of to paint the anguish of Ireland, is only a metaphorical expression, signifying excessive distress, and not the proper term, to express the state of people actually famished and dying for want of food.

"It is especially in England that people like to keep in this state of doubt, from which, however, it is easy to emerge.

"In 1727, about a hundred years since, the primate Boulter wrote concerning Ireland, where he was the chief agent of the English government;

"Since my arrival in this country (in 1725,) famine has never ceased among the poor. So dear has grain been, that thousands have been obliged to quit their dwellings to seek a living elsewhere. Many hundreds have perished.' When Bishop Doyle was asked, in 1832, what was the state of the population in the west; 'What it always has been,' said he; 'people are perishing as usual.'

"In 1817, fevers caused by poverty and hunger, attacked in Ireland one million five hundred thousand individuals, sixty-five thousand of whom perished; and it has been calculated, that, in 1826, the badness of the food made twenty thousand sick.

"In the grand inquiry, made in 1835, by the English government, into the social state of Ireland, the following question was addressed by the commissioners to their correspondents in each parish;

"Do you know of any death, in the course of the last three years, of which urgent want was the cause?"

"And the inquiry proves a multitude of deaths, which want of food alone had occasioned. Here are the unfortunate, whom hunger has manifestly killed; there, the wretched, whose death it has hastened. The latter perished from long exhaustion; the former at once, from disease and hunger. It would be a painful labor to make an abstract of this whole inquiry, which comprises ten folio volumes, some of which contain more than nine hundred pages; in which every page, every line, every word, shows some Irish misery, and yet all the wretchedness of Ireland is not related.

"The commissioners charged with this memorable inquiry estimate, that in Ireland there are nearly three million of individuals, who yearly sink into absolute destitution; these three millions are not only poor, they are wretchedly poor. Besides these three millions of poor, there are still millions of unhappy creatures, who, as they do not die of hunger, are not counted.—*North American Review.*

*The Three Friends.*—Trust no friend wherein thou hast not proved him. At the banqueting-table how many more are found than at the door of the prison!

A man had three friends: two of them he dearly loved—the third to him was indifferent, although he was the most true-hearted of the three. On a certain occasion he was summoned before a judge, and was, although innocent, cruelly accused. 'Who among you,' said he 'will go with me and be a witness in my behalf? for I have been cruelly accused and the king is angry.'

The first of his friends immediately excused himself, saying he could not go with him on account of other business.

The second accompanied him to the door of the judgment hall, than turned away and went back, fearing the anger of the judge.

The third, upon whom he had reckoned the least, went in, spoke for him, and so joyfully bore testimony to his innocence, that the judge released him and sent him away.

Three friends has man in this world, and how do they bear themselves toward him in the hour of death, when God summons him before his judgment seat? *Wealth*, his most cherished friend, first forsakes him and goes not with him. His *relatives* and *friends* accompany him to the portals of the grave, and turn back again to their dwellings. The third, that which in life was most frequently forgotten, is his *good works*. They alone accompany him to the throne of the judge: they go before, speak in his behalf, and find mercy.

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